

112 17. (Amended) Prefabricated buildings or houses according to a modular steel frame construction method as claimed in claim 1 [one of the preceding claims], substantiated by the fact that a combination of the roof frame (10) with the floor frame (1) and the transverse bearers (7) is practicable.

112 18. (Amended) Prefabricated buildings or houses according to a modular steel frame construction method as claimed in claim[s] 1 [to 17], substantiated by the fact that the finished modules (8) are connected, mounted and rabbeted accordingly at the building site.

112 19. (Amended) Prefabricated buildings or houses according to a modular steel frame construction method as claimed in claim[s] 1 [to 18], substantiated by the fact that it is possible to build houses with a variable number of stories.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the attached Abstract to the application.

REMARKS

The specification claims have been amended to conform the original translated specification and claims to U.S. requirements, i.e., appropriate section headers are added, reference in the specification to the claims have been amended in order to eliminate multiple dependent claims and claims improperly depending from multiple dependent claims, and to otherwise conform the claims to U.S. practice. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added to the text.

## ABSTRACT

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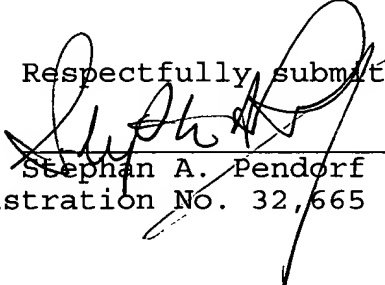
U.S. Application: NEW  
Preliminary Amendment

Attorney Docket: 3933.002

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 12, 2000

  
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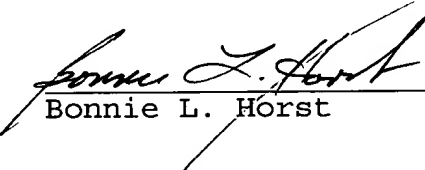
EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL568146563US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: April 12, 2000

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed: ATTN: Box PCT, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.

  
Bonnie L. Horst